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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/720,075

Examiner

Peng Ke

Applicant(s)

ZEEVI ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/7/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 41, 43-68, 70-76 and 78-82.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/26/07
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Shekleton, Gerald on 7/26/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

41. (currently amended) A method for creating a graphic user interface (GUI) for a computer application, comprising:

defining user interface objects and user interface elements corresponding to the user interface objects in a GUI layer that is separate from the computer application;

arbitrarily defining a mapping between the user interface objects and respective locations in a user interface screen, wherein the mapping defines the locations independently of the computer application and comprises defining a relation that associates the user interface objects with corresponding features in an image provided by a designer of the GUI, receiving the image from the designer, wherein the image comprises one or more of the features in respective positions, and determining the respective locations of the user interface objects based on the respective positions of the corresponding features in the image;

generating the user interface screen comprising the user interface elements in the respective locations determined by the mapping; and

linking the user interface objects in the GUI layer to methods in the computer application, so that interaction of a user with the user interface elements in the user interface screen invokes the methods linked to the objects.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein defining the relation comprises associating the features of a given color with a corresponding one of the user interface objects.

45. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein defining the relation comprises associating the features of a given shape with a corresponding one of the user interface objects.

46. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein receiving the image comprises changing a graphic quality of one of the features in the image, and wherein generating the user interface screen comprises changing the corresponding user interface element on the user interface screen responsive to changing the graphic quality, without effect on the method to which the corresponding user interface object is linked.

49. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein receiving the image comprises receiving a bitmap image, such that the respective locations of the user interface objects are determined responsive to the bitmap image.

50. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein generating the user interface screen comprises building the user interface screen based on the features of the image received from the designer, without resort to a textual description of the user interface elements.

51. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein defining the relation comprises identifying at least one of the features in the image with a user interface push button.

52. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein defining the relation comprises identifying at least one of the features in the image with an area for display of text or graphics associated with the application.

53. (currently amended) A method according to claim 4342, wherein defining the relation comprises identifying at least one of the features in the image with a user control for selecting a value of a parameter from a range of values.

68. (currently amended) A computer software product for creating a graphic user interface (GUI) for a computer application, the product comprising a computer-readable medium in which program instructions are stored, which instructions, when read by a computer, cause the computer to receive a definition of user interface objects and user interface elements corresponding to the user interface objects in a GUI layer that is separate from the computer application, and to receive an arbitrary definition of a mapping between the user interface objects

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and respective locations in a user interface screen, wherein the mapping defines the locations independently of the computer application, the mapping being defined in terms of a relation that associates the user interface objects with corresponding features in an image provided by a designer of the GUI, and wherein the instructions cause the computer to receive the image from the designer, wherein the image comprises one or more of the features in respective positions, and to determine the respective locations of the user interface objects based on the respective positions of the corresponding features in the image, the instructions further causing the computer to generate the user interface screen comprising the user interface elements in the respective locations determined by the mapping, and to link the user interface objects in the GUI layer to methods in the computer application, so that interaction of a user with the user interface elements in the user interface screen invokes the methods linked to the objects.

69. (cancelled)

70. (currently amended) A product according to claim 6869, wherein the instructions cause the computer to associate the features of a given color with a corresponding one of the user interface objects.

71. (currently amended) A product according to claim 6869, wherein the instructions cause the computer to associate the features of a given shape with a corresponding one of the user interface objects.

72. (currently amended) A product according to claim 6869, wherein the instructions cause the computer, responsive to a change made by a user in a graphic quality of one of the features in the image, to change the corresponding user interface element on the screen responsive to changing the graphic quality, without effect on the method to which the corresponding user interface object is linked.

76. Apparatus for creating a graphic user interface (GUI) for a computer application, comprising:

a GUI processor, which is adapted to receive a definition of user interface objects and user interface elements corresponding to the user interface objects in a GUI layer that is separate from the computer application, and to receive an arbitrary definition of a mapping between the user interface objects and respective locations in a user interface screen, wherein the mapping defines the locations independently of the computer application, the mapping being defined in terms of a relation that associates the user interface objects with corresponding features in an image provided by a designer of the GUI, and wherein the processor is adapted to receive the image from the designer, wherein the image comprises one or more of the features in respective positions, and to determine the respective locations of the user interface objects based on the respective positions of the corresponding features in the image

wherein the GUI processor is further adapted to generate the user interface screen comprising the user interface elements in the respective locations determined by the mapping, and to link the user interface objects in the GUI layer to methods in the computer application, so

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that interaction of a user with the user interface elements in the user interface screen invokes the methods linked to the objects; and

a display, which is driven by the processor to display the user interface screen.

77. (Cancelled)

78. (currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 76~~77~~, wherein the processor is adapted to associate the features of a given color with a corresponding one of the user interface objects.

79. (currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 76~~77~~, wherein the processor is adapted to associate the features of a given shape with a corresponding one of the user interface objects.

80. (currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 76~~77~~, and comprising a pointing device, which is operable by the designer to change a graphic quality of one of the features in the image, wherein the processor is adapted to change the corresponding user interface element on the screen responsive to changing the graphic quality, without effect on the method to which the corresponding user interface object is linked.

83 (Cancelled)

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 41, 43-68, 70-76, and 78-82 are allowed.

Prior art either alone or in combination doesn't show or teach "defining a relation that associates the user interface objects with corresponding features in an image provided by a designer of the GUI, receiving the image from the designer, wherein the image comprises one or more of the features in respective positions, and determining the respective locations of the user interface objects based on the respective positions of the corresponding features in the image;" "the mapping being defined in terms of a relation that associates the user interface objects with corresponding features in an image provided by a designer of the GUI, and wherein the instructions cause the computer to receive the image from the designer, wherein the image comprises one or more of the features in respective positions, and to determine the respective locations of the user interface objects based on the respective positions of the corresponding features in the image;" and "the mapping being defined in terms of a relation that associates the user interface objects with corresponding features in an image provided by a designer of the GUI, and wherein the processor is adapted to receive the image from the designer, wherein the image comprises one or more of the features in respective positions, and to determine the respective locations of the user interface objects based on the respective positions of the corresponding features in the image;" based on the arguments filed by the applicant on 5/7/07 in combination with other features.

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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